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Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

Rapporteur: Mr. Hasan **Abulhasan** (Kuwait)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2011, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples" and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. At its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2011, the Fourth Committee decided to hold a general debate on decolonization items (agenda items 56 to 60). The general debate on those items was held at the 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th meetings, on 3, 4, 6 and 10 October (see A/C.4/66/SR.2, 3, 5 and 6). The Committee took action on item 60 at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 and 11 October (see A/C.4/66/SR.6 and 7).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Relevant chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/66/23, chaps. VIII, IX, X and XII);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the question of Western Sahara (A/66/260).

4. At the 2nd meeting, on 3 October, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, in his capacity as Rapporteur of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, introduced the report of the

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Special Committee. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba, in his capacity as acting Chair of the Special Committee, made a statement in which he gave an account of the activities of the Special Committee during 2011 (see A/C.4/66/SR.2).

5. At the same meeting, the Fourth Committee granted requests for hearings to the petitioners listed in documents A/C.4/66/2, A/C.4/66/3, A/C.4/66/4, A/C.4/66/5, A/C.4/66/6 and A/C.4/66/7 in connection with its consideration of the item.

6. At its 3rd meeting, on 4 October, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard a statement on the question of Gibraltar by the Chief Minister of Gibraltar, Mr. Peter Caruana (see A/C.4/66/SR.3).

7. At the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard a statement on the question of New Caledonia by the Vice-President of the Government of New Caledonia, Mr. Gilbert Tyuienon (see A/C.4/66/SR.3).

8. Also at the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard a statement on the question of Gibraltar (see A/C.4/66/SR.3 and A/C.4/66/2/Rev.1).

9. Also at its 3rd meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard two statements on the question of Guam (see A/C.4/66/SR.3 and A/C.4/66/3/Rev.1).

10. At the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard a petitioner on the question of the Turks and Caicos Islands (see A/C.4/66/SR.3 and A/C.4/66/4/Rev.1).

11. Also at the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard a petitioner on the question of the United States Virgin Islands (see A/C.4/66/SR.3 and A/C.4/66/5/Rev.1).

12. At the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard a petitioner on item 60 (see A/C.4/66/SR.3 and A/C.4/66/6/Rev.1).

13. Also at the same meeting, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard 16 petitioners on the question of Western Sahara (see A/C.4/66/SR.3 and A/C.4/66/7/Rev.1).

14. At its 4th meeting, on 5 October, the Committee heard 33 petitioners on the question of Western Sahara (see A/C.4/66/SR.4 and A/C.4/66/7/Rev.1).

15. At its 5th meeting, on 6 October, on the basis of a decision taken at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard 10 petitioners on the question of Western Sahara (see A/C.4/66/SR.5 and A/C.4/66/7/Rev.1).

II. Consideration of proposals

16. At its 6th meeting, on 10 October, the Fourth Committee was informed that the draft resolutions and the draft decision submitted under item 60 did not entail programme budget implications.

A. Question of Western Sahara

17. At its 6th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Question of Western Sahara" (A/C.4/66/L.5), submitted by the Chair of the Committee.

18. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.4/66/L.5 without a vote (see para. 27, draft resolution I).

B. Question of New Caledonia

19. At its 6th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution IV, entitled "Question of New Caledonia", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee (A/66/23), without a vote (see para. 27, draft resolution II).

C. Question of Tokelau

20. At its 6th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution V, entitled "Question of Tokelau", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee (A/66/23), without a vote (see para. 27, draft resolution III).

D. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

21. At the 2nd meeting, on 3 October, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, in his capacity as Rapporteur of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, orally revised draft resolution VI, entitled "Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee (A/66/23) as follows:

Draft resolution B, section I. American Samoa

(a) A new operative paragraph 6 was inserted, reading:

"6. *Welcomes* the invitation to American Samoa in 2011 to become Pacific Islands Forum Observer";

Draft resolution B, section VI. Guam

(b) A new operative paragraph 5 was inserted, reading:

"5. *Welcomes* the invitation to Guam in 2011 to become Pacific Islands Forum Observer";

Draft resolution B, section VII. Montserrat

(c) The fourth preambular paragraph, which read:

"*Noting* the approval of a new Constitution in 2010 and the work of the territorial Government to update the relevant parts of the Territory's legislation so that the Constitution can enter into force later in 2011",

was replaced by:

"*Noting* the approval of a new Constitution in 2010 and the work of the territorial Government to update the relevant parts of the Territory's legislation so that the Constitution can enter into force in 2011";

(d) Operative paragraph 1, which read:

"1. *Recalls* the progress made by the territorial Government and the administering Power on concluding the negotiations to reform the Constitution of the Territory, and welcomes the approval of a new constitution for the Territory which is expected to enter into force later in 2011",

was replaced by:

"1. *Recalls* the progress made by the territorial Government and the administering Power on concluding the negotiations to reform the Constitution of the Territory, and welcomes the approval of a new Constitution for the Territory";

Draft resolution B, section X. Turks and Caicos Islands

(e) The fifth preambular paragraph, which read:

"*Noting* the administering Power's decisions to suspend parts of the 2006 Constitution of the Turks and Caicos Islands, covering the constitutional right to trial by jury, ministerial Government, and the House of Assembly, following the recommendations of an independent Commission of Inquiry and the ruling of the administering Power's Court of Appeal, and to present a draft constitution for public consultation in 2011",

was replaced by:

"*Noting* the administering Power's decisions to suspend parts of the 2006 Constitution of the Turks and Caicos Islands, covering the constitutional right to trial by jury, ministerial Government, and the House of Assembly, following the recommendations of an independent Commission of Inquiry and the ruling of the administering Power's Court of Appeal, to present a draft constitution for public consultation in 2011, and to introduce a new constitution for the Territory";

(f) Operative paragraph 1, which read:

"1. *Notes with grave concern* the ongoing situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and also notes the efforts of the administering Power to restore good governance and sound financial management in the Territory",

was replaced by:

"1. *Notes with grave concern* the ongoing situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and notes the efforts of the administering Power to restore good governance, including through the introduction of a new 2011 constitution, and sound financial management in the Territory".

22. At its 6th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution VI, entitled "Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee (A/66/23), as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 27, draft resolution IV).

E. Dissemination of information on decolonization

23. At its 7th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution VII, entitled "Dissemination of information on decolonization", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee (A/66/23), by a recorded vote of 147 to 3, with 1 abstention (see para. 27, draft resolution V). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

France.

F. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

24. At its 7th meeting, on 11 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution VIII, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples", contained in chapter XII of the report of the Special Committee (A/66/23), by a recorded vote of 149 to 3, with 2 abstentions (see para. 27, draft resolution VI). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Belgium, France.

G. Question of Gibraltar

25. At its 6th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Question of Gibraltar" (A/C.4/66/L.4), submitted by the Chair.

26. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.4/66/L.4 without a vote (see para. 28).

III. Recommendations of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

27. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 65/112 of 10 December 2010,

Recalling also all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990, 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002, 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004, 1570 (2004) of 28 October 2004, 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005, 1634 (2005) of 28 October 2005, 1675 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1720 (2006) of 31 October 2006,

Underlining the adoption of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007) on 30 April 2007, 1783 (2007) on 31 October 2007, 1813 (2008) on 30 April 2008, 1871 (2009) on 30 April 2009, 1920 (2010) on 30 April 2010 and 1979 (2011) on 27 April 2011,

Expressing its satisfaction that the parties met on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara and in the presence of the neighbouring countries and that they have agreed to continue the negotiations,

Also expressing its satisfaction at the holding of eight informal meetings convened by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on 9 and 10 August 2009 in Dürnstein, Austria, on 10 and 11 February 2010 in Westchester County, New York, United States of America, from 7 to 10 November 2010, from 16 to 18 December 2010 and from 21 to 23 January 2011, all on Long Island, New York, from 7 to 9 March 2011 in Mellieha, Malta, and from 5 to 7 June 2011 and

from 19 to 21 July 2011, both on Long Island, to prepare for the fifth round of negotiations,

Calling upon all the parties and the States of the region to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy and with each other,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara,

Welcoming, in this regard, the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2011,[1]

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General on the question of Western Sahara,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Supports* the process of negotiations initiated by Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) and further sustained by Council resolutions 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010) and 1979 (2011) with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, and commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in this respect;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue, in order to enter into a more intensive phase of negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions, taking note of efforts and developments since 2006, thus ensuring implementation of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007), 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010) and 1979 (2011) and the success of negotiations;

4. *Also welcomes* the ongoing negotiations between the parties held on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 in the presence of the neighbouring countries and under the auspices of the United Nations;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and calls upon them to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/66/23), chap. VIII.

[2] A/66/260.

Draft resolution II
Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2011 relating to New Caledonia,[1]

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Noting further the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples to New Caledonia from 4 to 13 February 2011,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

1. *Welcomes* the significant developments that have taken place in New Caledonia since the signing of the Nouméa Accord on 5 May 1998 by the representatives of New Caledonia and the Government of France;[2]

2. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of all the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, in the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony, and in this context welcomes the unanimous agreement, reached in Paris on 8 December 2008, on the transfer of powers to New Caledonia in 2009 and the conduct of provincial elections in May 2009;

3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and welcomes, in this context, the adoption on 18 August 2010 by the Government of New Caledonia of the law on the anthem, the motto and banknote designs;

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/66/23), chap. VIII.

[2] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

4. *Also notes* the ongoing difficulties regarding the question of the flag and the ensuing Cabinet crisis;

5. *Acknowledges* those provisions of the Nouméa Accord relating to control of immigration and protection of local employment, and notes that unemployment remains high among Kanaks and that recruitment of foreign mine workers continues;

6. *Notes* the concerns expressed by a group of indigenous people in New Caledonia regarding their underrepresentation in the Territory's governmental and social structures;

7. *Also notes* the concerns expressed by representatives of indigenous people regarding incessant migratory flows and the impact of mining on the environment;

8. *Takes note* of the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, such as international organizations in the Pacific region, the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, according to their regulations;

9. *Notes* the agreement between the signatories to the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

10. *Recalls* the fact that the administering Power invited to New Caledonia, at the time the new institutions were established, a mission of information which comprised representatives of countries of the Pacific region;

11. *Notes* the continuing strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund in such areas as economic and trade cooperation, the environment, climate change and financial services;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations;

13. *Invites* all the parties involved to continue promoting a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa Accord, which is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

14. *Recalls with satisfaction* the efforts of the French authorities to resolve the question of voter registration by adopting, in the French Congress of Parliament, on 19 February 2007, amendments to the French Constitution allowing New Caledonia to restrict eligibility to vote in local polls to those voters registered on the 1998 electoral rolls when the Nouméa Accord was signed, thus ensuring strong representation of the Kanak population;

15. *Notes* the efforts of the French authorities to address the Cabinet crisis;

16. *Welcomes* all measures taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon and Nouméa Accords;

17. *Also welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon and Nouméa Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

18. *Notes* the financial assistance rendered by the Government of France to the Territory in areas such as health, education, payment of public-service salaries and funding development schemes;

19. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the eighteenth Melanesian Spearhead Group Leaders Summit, held in Suva on 31 March 2011, including the recommendations for the annual monitoring and assessment of the Nouméa Accord;

20. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

21. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, including the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

22. *Welcomes* the cooperation among Australia, France and New Zealand in terms of surveillance of fishing zones, in accordance with the wishes expressed by France during the France-Oceania Summits in July 2003, June 2006 and July 2009;

23. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and territorial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum and the easing of short-stay visa procedures for countries of the South Pacific;

24. *Recalls with satisfaction*, in this regard, the participation of New Caledonia at the forty-first summit of the Pacific Islands Forum, held in Port Vila on 4 and 5 August 2010, following its accession to the Forum as an associate member in October 2006, and welcomes the support of the Government of France for the application by New Caledonia for a full membership in the Pacific Islands Forum;

25. *Recalls* the continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

26. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

27. *Also welcomes* the reactivation of dialogue on New Caledonia by the Ministerial Committee of the Pacific Islands Forum in 2010 and the request of Forum leaders to the Forum secretariat to explore ways to expand the role and engagement of New Caledonia in the Forum;

28. *Recalls* the successful conclusion of the Pacific regional seminar of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the

Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, held in Nouméa from 18 to 20 May 2010;

29. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

30. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session.

Draft resolution III
Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2011 relating to Tokelau,[1]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 65/114 of 10 December 2010,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Noting also with appreciation the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Noting that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

Noting also Tokelau's associate member status with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Recalling that New Zealand and Tokelau signed in November 2003 a document entitled "Joint statement of the principles of partnership", which sets out the rights and responsibilities of the two partners,

Bearing in mind the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association and its decision in August 2005 to hold in February 2006 a referendum on self-determination on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and its subsequent decision to hold a further referendum in October 2007,

1. *Notes* that Tokelau and New Zealand remain firmly committed to the ongoing development of Tokelau for the long-term benefit of the people of Tokelau, with particular emphasis on the further development of facilities on each atoll that meet their current requirements;

2. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils), in particular the delegation of the Administrator's

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/66/23), chap. X.

powers to the three taupulega with effect from 1 July 2004 and the assumption by each taupulega from that date of full responsibility for the management of all its public services;

3. *Recalls* the decision of the General Fono in November 2003, following extensive consultations in all three villages and a meeting of the Special Committee on the Constitution of Tokelau, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association, and the discussions subsequently held between Tokelau and New Zealand pursuant to the decision of the General Fono;

4. *Also recalls* the decision of the General Fono in August 2005 to hold a referendum on self-government on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and notes the enactment by the General Fono of rules for the referendum;

5. *Further recalls* that two referendums to determine the status of Tokelau, held in February 2006 and October 2007, did not produce the two-thirds majority of the valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change Tokelau's status from that of a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand;

6. *Commends* the professional and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums, monitored by the United Nations;

7. *Acknowledges* the decision of the General Fono that consideration of any future act of self-determination by Tokelau will be deferred and that New Zealand and Tokelau will devote renewed effort and attention to ensuring that essential services and infrastructure on the atolls of Tokelau are enhanced and strengthened, thereby ensuring an enhanced quality of life for the people of Tokelau;

8. *Also acknowledges* Tokelau's adoption of its National Strategic Plan for 2010-2015 and the fact that the Joint Commitment for Development between Tokelau and New Zealand 2011-2015 will focus on a viable transportation arrangement, infrastructure development, fisheries development, human resources capacity and the strengthening of governance;

9. *Further acknowledges* the ongoing and consistent commitment of New Zealand to meeting the social and economic requirements of the people of Tokelau, as well as the support and cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme;

10. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's need for continued support from the international community;

11. *Recalls with satisfaction* the establishment and operation of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the ongoing needs of Tokelau, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to contribute to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to Tokelau in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

12. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the region towards Tokelau, and their support for its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops;

14. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to transmit information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau to the Secretary-General;

15. *Also welcomes* the commitment of both Tokelau and New Zealand to continue to work together in the interests of Tokelau and its people;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session.

Draft resolution IV
Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

A
General

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2011,[1]

Recalling all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolutions,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1541 (XV), containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing concern that fifty-one years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[2] there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Conscious of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[3]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/66/23), chap. IX.

[2] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[3] See A/56/61, annex, and resolution 65/119.

Noting the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the stated position of the Government of the United States of America on the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration,

Noting also the constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories affecting the internal structure of governance about which the Special Committee has received information,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Convinced also that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory, under the aegis of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting that a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories have expressed concern at the procedure followed by some administering Powers, contrary to the wishes of the Territories themselves, of amending or enacting legislation for application to the Territories, either through orders in council, in order to apply to the Territories the international treaty obligations of the administering Power, or through the unilateral application of laws and regulations,

Aware of the importance of the international financial services and tourism sectors for the economies of some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that United Nations visiting and special missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, that some Territories have not received a United Nations visiting mission for a long time and that no visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories, and considering the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time, in consultation with the relevant administering Powers and in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Mindful also that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the relevant administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

Acknowledging the regular transmission by the administering Powers to the Secretary-General of information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter,

Aware of the importance both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Territories in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

Mindful, in this connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate, and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Noting the stated positions of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories before the Special Committee and at its regional seminars,

Mindful that the 2011 Caribbean regional seminar was held in Kingstown from 31 May to 2 June 2011,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and, in this connection, bearing in mind the applicability to the Territories of the programmes of action or outcome documents of all United Nations world conferences and special sessions of the General Assembly in the economic and social spheres,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Noting the statement by the representative of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at the Caribbean regional seminar in Kingstown that all six Caribbean Non-Self-Governing Territories are active associate members of the Economic Commission,

Aware that the Human Rights Committee, as part of its mandate under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[4] reviews the status of the self-determination process, including in small island Territories under examination by the Special Committee,

Recalling the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

Recognizing that the annual working papers prepared by the Secretariat on developments in each of the small Territories,[5] as well as the substantive documentation and information furnished by experts, scholars, non-governmental

[4] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[5] A/AC.109/2011/2, 4-12 and 15.

organizations and other sources, have provided important inputs to update the present resolutions,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[6]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection reiterates its long-standing call for the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their respective administering Powers;

5. *Requests* the administering Powers to continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Territories, and encourages the administering Powers to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territories;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and, as a priority, to mitigate the effects of the current global financial crisis where possible, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, towards the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

8. *Requests* the Territories and the administering Powers to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories

[6] A/65/330 and Add.1.

against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in the Territories and to provide assistance to those Territories, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

9. *Welcomes* the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional activities, including the work of regional organizations;

10. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the plans of action for the Second and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[3] in particular by expediting the application of the work programme for the decolonization of each Non-Self-Governing Territory, on a case-by-case basis, as well as by ensuring that periodic analyses are undertaken of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration in each Territory, and that the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on each Territory should fully reflect developments in those Territories;

11. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in a world free of colonialism within the context of the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

12. *Stresses* the importance of the various constitutional exercises in the respective Territories administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and led by the territorial Governments, designed to address internal constitutional structures within the present territorial arrangements, and decides to follow closely the developments concerning the future political status of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly on a regular basis on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

14. *Reiterates its request* that the Human Rights Committee collaborate with the Special Committee, within the framework of its mandate on the right to self-determination as contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[4] with the aim of exchanging information, given that the Human Rights Committee is mandated to review the situation, including political and constitutional developments, in many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are within the purview of the Special Committee;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to collaborate with the Economic and Social Council and its relevant subsidiary intergovernmental bodies, within the framework of their respective mandates, with the aim of exchanging information on developments in those Non-Self-Governing Territories which are reviewed by those bodies;

16. *Also requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

B
Individual Territories

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

I
American Samoa

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa[7] and other relevant information,

Noting the statement made by the representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Kingstown from 31 May to 2 June 2011, that the Territory's position that it should be removed from the United Nations list of Non-Self-Governing Territories continued to hold, that it was time to make political and economic progress while respecting the concerns of the administering Power and the United Nations, and that the administering Powers should be urged to transmit information on their respective Non-Self-Governing Territories for consideration by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Aware that under United States law the Secretary of the Interior has administrative jurisdiction over American Samoa,[8]

Noting the position of the administering Power and the statements made by representatives of American Samoa in regional seminars, including at the 2011 Caribbean regional seminar, inviting the Special Committee to send a visiting mission to the Territory,

Aware of the work of the Future Political Status Study Commission, completed in 2006, the release of its report, with recommendations, in January 2007, and the creation of the American Samoa Constitutional Review Committee in the Territory, as well as the holding in June 2010 of American Samoa's fourth Constitutional Convention,

Noting, in that regard, the statement made by the representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the 2011 Caribbean regional seminar and previous policy papers presented to the Special Committee stating that, against a backdrop of a decades-long popular preference for integration with the United States of America, the Territory wished to move forward on political status, local autonomy and self-governance issues,

Acknowledging the indication by the territorial Government, including at the 2011 Caribbean regional seminar, that the effects of certain federal laws on the Territory's economy are serious cause for concern,

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[7] A/AC.109/2011/12.

[8] United States Congress, 1929 (48 U.S.C. Sec. 1661, 45 Stat. 1253), and Secretary's Order 2657, Department of the Interior, United States of America, 1951, as amended.

Aware that American Samoa continues to be the only United States Territory to receive financial assistance from the administering Power for the operations of the territorial Government,

1. *Takes note* that, at the November 2010 general elections, voters defeated the proposed amendments to the 1967 revised Constitution of American Samoa adopted at the fourth Constitutional Convention, held in June 2010;

2. *Welcomes* the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward on political status, local autonomy and self-governance issues with a view to making political and economic progress;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the invitation extended in 2011 to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the Governor of American Samoa to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

4. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public awareness programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in the diversification and sustainability of the economy of the Territory and to address employment and cost-of-living issues;

6. *Welcomes* the invitation to American Samoa in 2011 to become Pacific Islands Forum observer;

II
Anguilla

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla[9] and other relevant information,

Recalling the holding of the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, hosted by the territorial Government and made possible by the administering Power, the first time that the seminar had been held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory,

Recalling also the statement of the representative of Anguilla at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Noting the internal constitutional review process resumed by the territorial Government in 2006, the work of the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission, which prepared its report in August 2006, the holding of public and other consultative meetings in 2007 on proposed constitutional amendments to be presented to the administering Power, and the 2008 decision to set up a drafting team consisting of territorial Government officials, members of the House of Assembly and lawyers to draft a new constitution, as well as the presentation of the

[9] A/AC.109/2011/2.

draft constitution for public consultation in the Territory in 2009 and the expectation that the draft text will be discussed with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, with the aim of seeking full internal self-government without prejudice to independence as an option,

Aware of certain difficulties in the relations between the territorial Government and the administering Power regarding budgetary and economic matters and of the intention of the territorial Government to continue its commitment to high-end tourism in an effort to promote local employment opportunities,

Noting the participation of the Territory as an associate member in the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Aware of the willingness expressed by the Prime Ministers of the States members of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States in 2011 to assist in the resolution of difficulties being experienced by the territorial Government in respect of its relations with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,

1. *Once again welcomes* the presentation of a new constitution for public consultation in 2009 with the aim of further discussing the new constitution with the administering Power in 2010, and urges that constitutional discussions be concluded as soon as possible;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in its current efforts with regard to advancing the internal constitutional review exercise, if requested;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

4. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public consultative outreach efforts consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in strengthening its commitments in the economic domain, including budgetary matters, with regional support as needed and appropriate;

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

III
Bermuda

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda[10] and other relevant information,

[10] A/AC.109/2011/5.

Recalling the statement of the representative of Bermuda at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties on the future status of the Territory, and noting a January 2011 survey by local media according to which 73 per cent of respondents did not wish to sever ties with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the administering Power, and 14 per cent were in favour of independence,

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda in 2005, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough examination of the facts surrounding independence, and continues to regret that the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a Green Paper to the House of Assembly followed by a White Paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda have so far not materialized;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

IV
British Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands[11] and other relevant information,

Noting the statement of the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Kingstown from 31 May to 2 June 2011, that independence was not a matter regularly discussed among the people of the Territory as there had been no popular call for such a drastic change in the relationship with the administering Power and that the policy framework governing the relationship with the administering Power was being reviewed,

Recalling the 1993 report of the Constitutional Commissioners, the 1996 debate on the report in the Legislative Council of the Territory, the establishment of the Constitutional Review Commission in 2004, the completion in 2005 of its report providing recommendations on internal constitutional modernization and the debate held in 2005 on the report in the Legislative Council, as well as the negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government, which resulted in the adoption of the new Constitution of the Territory in 2007,

[11] A/AC.109/2011/6.

Noting the view expressed in the aforementioned statement made by the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the 2011 Caribbean regional seminar that there was scope for further constitutional review with respect to the practical and effective implementation of the provisions of the 2007 Constitution in the Territory,

Aware of the negative impact of the global economic slowdown on the growth of the Territory's financial and tourism services sectors, which was possibly somewhat less severe in 2010-2011,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Recalls* the Constitution of the British Virgin Islands, which took effect in 2007, and stresses the importance of continued discussions on constitutional matters, to accord greater responsibility to the territorial Government for the effective implementation of the 2007 Constitution;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Territory to strengthen its financial services regulatory regime and to seek new, non-traditional markets for its tourism industry;

4. *Also welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

5. *Further welcomes* the holding, for the first time at the level of heads of territorial Government, on 12 May 2011, of the meeting of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the Territory and the United States Virgin Islands;

V
Cayman Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands[12] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement made by the representative of the territorial Government at the Pacific regional seminar, held in Nouméa from 18 to 20 May 2010,

Aware of the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Commission, which contained a draft constitution for the consideration of the people of the Territory, the 2003 draft constitution offered by the administering Power and the subsequent discussions between the Territory and the administering Power in 2003, and the reopening of discussions between the administering Power and the territorial Government on internal constitutional modernization, in 2006, which resulted in the finalization of a new draft constitution in February 2009, its subsequent acceptance by referendum in May 2009, and promulgation in November 2009,

[12] A/AC.109/2011/8.

Conscious of the work, under the 2009 Constitution, of the new Constitutional Commission, which serves as an advisory body on constitutional matters,

Acknowledging the view of the territorial Government that, in spite of the global economic downturn and unemployment issues, the Territory's financial services and tourism industries would help sustain a strong economy,

1. *Recalls* the Constitution, which took effect in 2009, and stresses the importance of the work of the new Constitutional Commission, including human rights education, in the Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public awareness outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the Territory's active participation in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by the territorial Government to implement sectoral management policies such as investment facilitation and regulation and the promotion of medical and sports tourism, as well as unemployment alleviation programmes in various economic sectors;

VI
Guam

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam[13] and other relevant information,

Noting the statement made by the representative of the Governor of Guam at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Kingstown from 31 May to 2 June 2011, that the territorial Government had a strong commitment to the inalienable right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination, aspired to a partnership with the administering Power wherein all interests would be respected and considered, and generally considered militarism an impediment to decolonization,

Aware that under United States law the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters that are not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[14]

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Recalling also the requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory, including at the 2011 Caribbean regional seminar, that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-

[13] A/AC.109/2011/15.

[14] United States Congress, Organic Act of Guam, 1950, as amended.

Governing Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

Aware that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act ended in 1997 and that Guam has subsequently established a non-binding plebiscite process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

Cognizant of the importance that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Aware of the deep concerns expressed by civil society and others, including at the meetings of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) of the General Assembly in October 2009 and 2010, at the Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa from 18 to 20 May 2010, and at the 2011 Caribbean regional seminar, regarding the potential social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of the planned transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

1. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the referendum of 1987 and as subsequently provided for in Guam law regarding Chamorro self-determination efforts, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government to enter into negotiations on the matter, and stresses the need for continued close monitoring of the overall situation in the Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and to respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam and to take all measures necessary to address the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, and welcomes the recent outreach work by the territorial Government, including the convening in 2011 of a Chamorro forum;

4. *Further requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes for the sustainable development of the economic activities and enterprises of the Territory, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

5. *Welcomes* the invitation to Guam in 2011 to become Pacific Islands Forum observer;

VII
Montserrat

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat[15] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of Montserrat at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Aware of the 2002 report of the Constitutional Review Commission, the convening of a committee of the House of Assembly in 2005 to review the report, the subsequent negotiating process with the administering Power on a draft constitution according greater autonomy to the territorial Government, the efforts of the newly elected 2010 territorial Government to continue the process of negotiating constitutional reforms with the administering Power, and the draft constitution agreed between the two parties and published for public consultation,

Noting the approval of a new Constitution in 2010 and the work of the territorial Government to update the relevant parts of the Territory's legislation so that the Constitution can enter into force in 2011,

Aware that Montserrat continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Recalling the statements made by participants at the 2009 Caribbean regional seminar encouraging the administering Power to commit sufficient resources to meet the Territory's special needs,

Noting with concern the continued consequences of the 1995 volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the Territory's population to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

Acknowledging the continued assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

Noting the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

1. *Recalls* the progress made by the territorial Government and the administering Power on concluding the negotiations to reform the Constitution of the Territory, and welcomes the approval of a new Constitution for the Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

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[15] A/AC.109/2011/11.

3. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

VIII
Pitcairn

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn[16] and other relevant information,

Taking into account the unique character of Pitcairn in terms of population, area and access,

Aware that, following consultations in 2009, the Pitcairn Constitution Order 2010, including human rights provisions, came into force in the Territory in March 2010,

Aware also that the administering Power and the territorial Government have implemented a new governance structure to strengthen administrative capacity in the Territory, based on consultations with the people of the Territory, and that Pitcairn continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

1. *Recalls* the entry into force of the Pitcairn Constitution Order 2010 in the Territory in March 2010, featuring a new constitutional framework and human rights provisions, and all efforts by the administering Power and the territorial Government that would further devolve operational responsibilities to the Territory, with a view to gradually expanding self-government, including through training of local personnel;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the territorial Government on how best to support socio-economic security in Pitcairn;

IX
Saint Helena

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena[17] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of Saint Helena at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

[16] A/AC.109/2011/4.
[17] A/AC.109/2011/7.

Taking into account the unique character of Saint Helena in terms of its population, geography and natural resources,

Aware of the internal constitutional review process led by the territorial Government since 2001, the completion of a draft constitution following negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government in 2003 and 2004, the consultative poll with regard to a new Constitution, held in Saint Helena in May 2005, the subsequent preparation of a revised draft constitution and its publication in June 2008 for further public consultation, and the entry into force of the new Constitution for Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha on 1 September 2009,

Cognizant that Saint Helena continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Aware of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the areas of employment and transport and communications infrastructure,

Noting the efforts of the Territory to address the problem of unemployment on the island and the joint action of the administering Power and the territorial Government in dealing with it,

Noting also the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Saint Helena, and, in this regard, the administering Power's announcement in 2010 about plans for building an airport on the island of Saint Helena,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the Territory's 2009 Constitution;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the Territory's socio-economic development challenges, including unemployment, and limited transport and communications infrastructure;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take into account the unique geographical character of Saint Helena while resolving as soon as feasible any outstanding issues related to the airport construction;

X
Turks and Caicos Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands[18] and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement of the representative of the Turks and Caicos Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar, held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

[18] A/AC.109/2011/10.

Recalling also the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power,

Aware of the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Body, and acknowledging the Constitution agreed between the administering Power and the territorial Government, which entered into force in 2006,

Noting the administering Power's decisions to suspend parts of the 2006 Constitution of the Turks and Caicos Islands, covering the constitutional right to trial by jury, ministerial Government, and the House of Assembly, following the recommendations of an independent Commission of Inquiry and the ruling of the administering Power's Court of Appeal, to present a draft constitution for public consultation in 2011, and to introduce a new constitution for the Territory,

Noting also the continued postponement of elections in the Territory,

Acknowledging the impact that the global economic slowdown and other relevant developments have had on tourism and related real estate development, the mainstays of the Territory's economy, and the 2010-2011 fiscal stabilization plan providing stimuli to the Territory's private sector,

1. *Notes with grave concern* the ongoing situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and notes the efforts of the administering Power to restore good governance, including through the introduction of a new 2011 constitution, and sound financial management in the Territory;

2. *Calls for* the restoration of constitutional arrangements providing for representative democracy through elected territorial Government as soon as possible;

3. *Notes* the positions and repeated calls of the Caribbean Community and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries for the restoration of democratically elected territorial Government as a matter of urgency, and also notes the view expressed by the administering Power that elections should not be postponed any longer than necessary;

4. *Also notes* the extensive public consultations undertaken by the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Adviser and the continued debate on constitutional and electoral reform within the Territory, and stresses the importance of participation by all groups and interested parties in the consultation process;

5. *Stresses* the importance of having in place in the Territory a Constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of the people of the Territory, based on the mechanisms for popular consultation;

6. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

7. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

8. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the territorial Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of socio-economic development across the Territory;

XI
United States Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands[19] and other relevant information,

Aware that under United States law the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,[20]

Aware also of the fifth attempt of the Territory to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes its internal governance arrangements, as well as its requests to the administering Power and the United Nations system for assistance to its public education programme,

Cognizant that a draft constitution was proposed in 2009 and subsequently forwarded to the administering Power, which in 2010 requested the Territory to consider its objections to the draft constitution,

Cognizant also of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal of a draft constitution emanating from the Territory in 2009, as a result of the work of the United States Virgin Islands Fifth Constitutional Convention, for review by the administering Power, and requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals, in particular the successful conclusion of the ongoing internal Constitutional Convention exercise;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to facilitate the process for approval of the proposed territorial constitution in the United States Congress and its implementation, once agreed upon in the Territory;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public education programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and, in this regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Reiterates its call* for the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

6. *Also welcomes* the holding, for the first time at the level of heads of territorial Government, on 12 May 2011, of the meeting of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the Territory and the British Virgin Islands.

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[19] A/AC.109/2011/9.

[20] United States Congress, Revised Organic Act, 1954.

Draft resolution V
Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2011 relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[1]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular Assembly resolution 65/116 of 10 December 2010,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[2]

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Recognizing the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also the role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, through the United Nations information centres, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

Recalling the issuance by the Department of Public Information, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, and recalls with satisfaction the publication, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/129 of 14 December 2006, of the information leaflet entitled "What the UN Can Do to Assist Non-Self-Governing Territories", which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization in May 2009, and encourages continued updating and wide dissemination of the information leaflet;

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/66/23), chap. III.

[2] See resolution 65/119.

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options for self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and, to this end, requests the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations information centres in the relevant regions, to actively engage and seek new and innovative ways to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website and to continue to include the full series of reports of the regional seminars on decolonization, the statements and scholarly papers presented at those seminars and links to the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to update web-based information on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee and to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(a) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Territories;

(b) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(c) To explore further the idea of a programme of collaboration with the decolonization focal points of territorial Governments, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, to help improve the exchange of information;

(d) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(e) To encourage the involvement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(f) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution VI
Implementation of the declaration on the granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2011,[1]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 65/117 of 10 December 2010, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010, by which it declared the period 2011-2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2011,

Regretting that measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, have not been successful,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the continued efforts of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of certain administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

Noting that the Caribbean regional seminar was held in Kingstown from 31 May to 2 June 2011,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 65/119, by which it declared the period 2011-2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all steps necessary to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/66/23).

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[2]

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to develop and finalize, as soon as possible, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

6. *Recalls with satisfaction* the professional, open and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the Second and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(a) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session;

(b) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(c) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend, as appropriate, to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(d) To develop and finalize, as soon as possible and in cooperation with the administering Power and the Territory in question, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

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[2] Resolution 217 A (III).

(e) To continue to dispatch visiting and special missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(f) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(g) To take all steps necessary to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(h) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;[3]

8. *Recalls* that the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[4] updated as necessary, represents an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that the case-by-case assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory can make an important contribution to this process;

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that economic and other activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the relevant administering Power to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance, as needed, to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as

[3] See resolution 54/91.

[4] A/56/61, annex.

appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

14. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

15. *Calls upon* all the administering Powers to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee and to participate formally in its future sessions;

16. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 2011, including the programme of work envisaged for 2012;[1]

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

28. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Question of Gibraltar

The General Assembly, recalling its decision 65/521 of 10 December 2010 and the statements agreed to by the Governments of Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Brussels, on 27 November 1984,[1] and in Madrid, on 27 October 2004, and noting the establishment, pursuant to the latter, of the tripartite Forum for Dialogue on Gibraltar, separate from the Brussels Process, under the statement made jointly by the Governments of Spain, the United Kingdom and Gibraltar on 16 December 2004:

(a) Urges both Governments, while listening to the interests and aspirations of Gibraltar, to reach, in the spirit of the statement of 27 November 1984, a definitive solution to the question of Gibraltar, in the light of relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and applicable principles, and in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations;

(b) Welcomes the continuing commitment to the trilateral Forum for Dialogue, including in the six additional areas of cooperation announced in 2009.

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[1] A/39/732, annex.